



Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs

Sample Volunteer Project List

Properties are listed alphabetically. Each list has suggestions from properties, and the list can change depending on the season. Not all properties are listed, but similar activities are available in most locations. If you cannot find your favorite DNR property or have questions with what you see, contact the volunteer coordinator at that property.

Property: Brookville-Whitewater 765-647-2657

Projects individual volunteers or groups (like scouts) can do:

- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas (including Adopt-A-Ramp); Lakeshore cleanup
- Plant trees
- Trail maintenance (and Adopt-A-Trail) or mapping
- Campground or Nature Center Host
- Naturalist Aide/Activity Aide
- Flower bed maintenance
- Wildlife Surveys
- Invasive Species removal/control
- Structure maintenance (painting, carpentry work)
- Build bird feeders or bird houses
- Build bat boxes
- Disperse salt blocks for wildlife
- Build fish attractors
- Nuisance goose control
- Maintain hunter check-in boxes
- Maintain property signs
- Present a program: Outdoor skills (camping, paddling, outdoor ethics, outdoor safety), Swimming lessons, Musical or Dramatic (storytelling) entertainment, Cooking, Art/Crafting, History, Science, Hunter safety/education

Projects a family can do:

- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas (including Adopt-A-Ramp)
- Lakeshore cleanup
- Plant trees
- Trail maintenance (and Adopt-A-Trail) or mapping
- Campground or Nature Center Host

- Naturalist Aide/Activity Aide
- Flower bed maintenance
- Wildlife Surveys
- Structure maintenance (painting, carpentry work)
- Build bird feeders or bird houses (wood duck boxes, bluebird houses, etc.)
- Build bat boxes
- Disperse salt blocks for wildlife
- Build fish attractors

Property: Brown County State Park 812-988-5240

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Building host at nature center
- Several display/exhibit projects in nature center
- Weed/mulch Interpretive Garden, flower beds at park office, garden by NC bee hive, camper booth
- Gatehouses
- Maintain bird viewing area (fountain upkeep, feeder repairs, clean glass, and etc.)
- Fire tower host
- Keep all trailhead boxes stocked w/ maps
- Update sign inventory in old barn
- Exotic plant removal
- Help with camper booth check-ins
- Hand tool inventory and maintenance
- Laminate flyers to post on bulletin boards
- Organize/inventory all interpretive handouts

Projects a family can do:

- Clean all interpretive kiosk panels
- Check all trail signs for proper location, condition, etc.
- Check for nails on all boardwalks, bridges, stairs, etc.
- Exotic plant removal
- Trash pickup at both lake parking lots, shelters, trails and vistas
- Pass out program schedules to campers
- Sort out stored recyclables
- Install property boundary signs where practical
- Clean nature center

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Move boardwalks to Lake Ogle trail
- Carry out all broken picnic tables from both lakes
- Walk all roadsides for trash; trash pick-up all other areas
- Wove rip-rap to eroded areas
- Straighten all split rails, road chevrons, etc.
- Exotic plant removal

- Clean out all bird, bat houses
- Help distribute gravel where needed
- Trail vegetation-trimming
- Install new mulch in nature center bird area
- Fence-painting
- Install lakeshore trail erosion bars/replant vegetation

Property: Charlestown State Park 812-256-5600

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Pick up litter along hiking trails

Projects a family and groups (like scouts) can do:

- Pick up litter along Fourteen-mile creek and the Ohio River

Property: Clifty Falls State Park 812-273-0609

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Nature Center Hosting/Assistance
- Special Events Assistance
- Landscape Stewardship

Projects a family can do:

- Nature Center Landscape Stewardship
- Creek Cleanup

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Trail Maintenance
- Resource Management/Invasive Control
- Property Landscape Stewardship
- Creek Cleanup

Property: Fort Harrison State Park 317-591-0122

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Trail Patrol for unleashed dogs
- Litter pick up

Projects a family can do:

- Litter patrol along Fall Creek

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Eagle Scout level candidates can bring large troop-level numbers of scouts to supervise for the cutting and spraying of the Asian Bush Honeysuckle in the historic Walnut Plantation or across the State Park where there are large clumps of Honeysuckle

Property: Hardy Lake 812-794-3800

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Lake Sweep Event on April 24
- Help with cleaning and maintenance at the Raptor Rehabilitation Center
- Help to care for permanently injured birds of prey including feeding
- Help to care for rehabilitating birds of prey including feeding and medical treatment
- Help to raise and care for rats and mice and rabbits used as a food source for birds of prey

- Help in offering interpretive programming on and off property. We are always looking for people that have unique hobbies that can be shared with the public; i.e.: birding, crafts, hiking, etc

Projects a family can do:

- Lake Sweep Event April 24

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Lake Sweep Event April 24

Property: Harmonie State Park 812-682-4821

Projects individual volunteers, families or groups (like scouts) can do:

- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas
- General trail maintenance and minor improvements
- Help at the Nature Center
- Help with special events
- Flower bed maintenance
- Pond clean up and maintenance
- Painting
- Minor structure maintenance (painting, carpentry work)
- Bundle firewood
- Check the blue bird boxes
- Invasive Species removal/control
- Structure maintenance (painting, carpentry work)
- Share your talents and present a program: camping, fishing, outdoor ethics, outdoor safety, musical, storytelling, cooking, crafting, history, science, etc.
- Teach water aerobics class in the summer when the pool is open

Property: Indiana Dunes State Park 219-926-1390

Projects individual volunteers and families can do:

- Garlic Mustard Pulling
- Beach clean up
- Weekend Nature Center staffing
- Nighttime owl banding project volunteers (March, October)

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Same as above
- Small foot bridge construction (must provide materials)

Property: Lieber State Recreation Area 765-795-4576 or 3552

Projects individual volunteers, families, or groups can do:

- Litter pickup
- Take/deliver messages
- Housekeeping
- Provide security
- Clean fire rings
- Make minor electrical repairs

- Traffic control
- Volunteer and staff nature center
- Assist with special events and other duties as assigned

Property: Lincoln State Park and Col. Jones Home 812-937-4710

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Assist with invasive species management program
- Pick up litter
- Assist with operations at the Nature Center, including clean reptile cages
- Help maintain herb garden at Col. Jones Home
- Assist at Lincoln Amphitheater

Projects a family can do:

- Assist with invasive species management program
- Pick up litter
- Assist with operations at the Nature Center, to include cleaning reptile cages
- Help maintain herb garden at Col. Jones Home
- Plant native trees
- Work on bulletin boards
- Assist at Lincoln Amphitheater

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Assist with invasive species management program
- Pick up litter
- Acquire and plant native trees
- Assist with fall events during October
- Assist at Lincoln Amphitheater

Property: McCormick's Creek State Park 812-829-4344

Projects individual volunteers and groups (like scouts) can do:

- Hike the creek and collect litter
- Hike trails and collect litter

Projects a family can do:

- Assist nature center to clean birdfeeders, feed birds
- Hike trails and collect litter

Property: Mississinewa Lake 765-473-6528

Projects individual volunteers and groups (like scouts) can do:

- Litter pick up
- Repair picnic tables

Projects a family can do:

- Walk trails for litter
- Pick up sticks in camp areas

Property: Mounds State Park 765-649-8128

Projects individual volunteers, families, or groups (like scouts) can do:

- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas.

- Nature Center Host
- Naturalist Aide/Activity Aide
- Flower bed maintenance
- Wildlife Surveys
- Invasive Species removal/control (Such as Garlic Mustard)
- Build bird feeders or bird houses
- Build bat boxes
- Maintain bird viewing area (fill feeders, clean glass, etc.)
- Organize/inventory all interpretive handouts, materials
- Sort out stored recyclables
- Special Events Assistance
- Assist with operations at the Nature Center including cleaning aquariums and reptile cages
- Youth Tent area clean up

Property: O'Bannon Woods State Park 812-738-8234

Projects individual volunteers, families or a group (like scouts) can do:

- Pick up trash at any of the four canoe access sites
- Remove brush and limbs off trails
- Pull weeds at the NC gardens
- Clean livestock pens
- Assist in spreading lime on accessible trail
- Spread sand in pond for accessible trail
- Stack and load firewood

Property: Ouabache State Park 260-824-0926

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Trim hiking/bike trails
- Maintain all flower beds
- Assist with special events
- Assist with resource management projects
- Pick up litter throughout the park including trails
- Perform minor repairs to paddleboats
- Bundle firewood
- Clean up trash, etc. along the bank of the Wabash River

Projects a family can do:

- Litter pick up
- Trim hiking/bike trails
- Maintain all flower beds
- Assist with special events
- Assist with resource management projects

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Trim hiking and bike trails
- Bundle firewood

- Clean up along the banks of the Wabash River
- Assist with resource management projects

Property: Patoka Lake 812-685-2447

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Patoka Lake Cleanup September 7
- Litter Cleanup
- Campground Host
- Moery Cabin Host
- Naturalist Aide
- Flowerbed maintenance/ Gardening
- Invasive Species Removal
- Present A Program: we are always looking for people to share their hobbies and passions with the public. I.E. outdoor skills (camping, outdoor ethics, outdoor safety etc.) local history, campfire cooking, birding, hiking, arts/crafts, Recreational, and more.
- Update or maintain bulletin boards in campgrounds
- Special Event Assistance

Projects a family can do:

- Patoka Lakeshore Cleanup September 7
- Litter/Cleanup
- Campground Host
- Moery Cabin Host
- Flowerbed maintenance/ Gardening
- Invasive Species Removal
- Present A Program: we are always looking for people to share their hobbies and passions with the public. I.E. outdoor skills (camping, outdoor ethics, outdoor safety etc.) local history, campfire cooking, Arts/Crafts, Recreational, and more.
- Update or maintain bulletin boards in campgrounds
- Special Event Assistance

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Patoka Lake Cleanup September 7
- Litter Cleanup
- Flowerbed maintenance/ Gardening
- Invasive Species Removal
- Update or maintain bulletin boards in campgrounds
- Special Event Assistance

Property: Potato Creek State Park 574-656-8186

Projects individual volunteers and groups (like Scouts) can do:

- Trash pick up
- Invasive plant control
- Trail trimming

Projects a family can do:

- Trash pick up
- Invasive plant control

Property: Prophetstown State Park 765-567-4919

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Pulling Garlic Mustard (Spring)
- Trash along Tippecanoe and Wabash River
- Trash along Harrison Creek
- Harvesting Wildflower seeds (Fall)
- Manicuring Wildflower beds and Islands
- Maintain bulletin boards (materials provided)
- Garden work at the Native American village
- Assist Naturalist with Programs and/or Special Events
- Feeding and cleaning of educational animal (reptiles and amphibians)
- Assist Interpreter at weekly farmer's market booth (May-July)
- Assist with greenhouse operations (February-June)

Projects a family can do:

- Pulling Garlic Mustard (Spring)
- Pulling Sweet Clover (Summer)
- Harvesting Wildflower Seed (Fall)
- Adopt a trail (remove brush and hanging limbs from trail)
- Asian Bush Honeysuckle removal (Year around)

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Replacing Wood duck boxes
- Making more Eastern Bluebird boxes
- Trash pickup along Tippecanoe and Wabash.
- Maintain boardwalk over wet areas
- Asian Bush Honeysuckle Removal (Year Around)
- Assist with other resource management projects

Property: Raccoon State Recreation Area 765-344-1412

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Assist the interpreter with programs/bulletin boards, etc.
- Maintain all flower beds
- Assist with special events
- Assist with resource management projects
- Pick up litter throughout the park including trails
- Assist with Recycle program
- Clean up trash, etc. along the shore line of Cecil M. Harden Lake

Projects a family can do:

- Litter pick up
- Assist the interpreter with programs/bulletin boards, etc.
- Maintain all flower beds
- Assist with special events
- Assist with Recycle program

- Assist with resource management projects

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Trim hiking trails
- Clean up along the shore line of Cecil M. Harden Lake
- Assist with special events
- Assist with resource management projects

Property: Salamonie Reservoir 260-468-2125

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Help split firewood
- Build wood duck boxes
- Pull weeds in flowerbeds

Projects a family can do:

- Adopt a trail

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Adopt a trail

Property: Shades State Park 765-597-2654

Projects individual volunteers or families can do:

- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas, or
- Adopt a Trail
- Help set up, put on and tear down June and September special events
- Become a Campground Rover on Friday and Saturday evenings, meeting and welcoming campers and promoting weekend programs
- Create attractive bulletin board displays

Projects a group (like scouts) can do:

- Remove invasive plants
- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas, or
- Adopt a Trail

Property: Shakamak State Park 812-665-2158

Projects individual volunteers or families can do:

- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas
- Remove brush and limbs off trails and in campground
- Be a Nature Center Host
- Help clean Nature Center
- Prepare and clean bulletin boards (materials provided)
- Flower bed planting or maintenance
- Special events assistance

Projects a group (like scouts) can do:

- Removing invasive plants
- Building or maintaining bat boxes
- Building blue bird boxes
- Assist with special events
- Trail or campground clean up

Property: Spring Mill State Park 812-849-3534 or springmillstatepark@dnr.in.gov

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Nature Center receptionist
- Help with design and upkeep of displays/exhibit projects in nature center
- Weed/mulch Interpretive Garden at the Nature Center
- Help village staff with craft program preparation
- Exotic plant removal
- Post flyers on bulletin boards
- Pick up trash on trails
- Naturalist Aide/Activity Aide (Nature Center or Pioneer Village)
- Help with special events
- Clean Nature Center
- Clean all bulletin boards in the park

Projects a family can do:

- Check all trail signs for proper location, condition, etc.
- Check for nails on all boardwalks, bridges, stairs, etc.
- Exotic plant removal
- Trash pickup at parking lots, shelters and trails.
- Clean nature center
- Clean all bulletin boards in the park

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Exotic plant removal
- Help distribute gravel where needed
- Trail vegetation-trimming
- Bundle firewood

Property: Summit Lake State Park 765-766-5873

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Flower bed preparation, trail clean up

Projects a family can do:

- Flower bed preparation, trail clean up, ready pumpkin patch

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Trail clean up
- Campground clean up
- Youth Tent area clean up
- Remove old split rail fence at entrance and fill holes from posts
- Bark chip around campground trees
- Replace boundary signs

Property: Tippecanoe River State Park 574-946-3213

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- River Cleanup

- Volunteer at Nature Center
- Special Events Assistance
- Assist Naturalist with Programs
- Campground Cleanup picking up Limbs and Raking Leaves
- Resource Inventories
- Birds and Waterfowl Inventories
- Maintain Flower Beds
- GPS Trails
- Clean Roadside Trash
- Build Bird & Bat Boxes

Projects a family can do:

- Build Bat Boxes
- River Cleanup
- Fill Bird Boxes with food
- Paint property signs
- Clean Nature Center
- Maintain Flower Beds.
- Campground Cleanup picking up Limbs and Raking Leaves

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Build Bat Boxes
- Build Wood Duck Boxes/Maintain Duck Boxes
- Adopt a Trail Cleanup
- Build Bird Houses
- Resource Management
- Build Manure Pits

Property: Turkey Run State Park 765-597-2654

Projects individual volunteers or families can do:

- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas, or
- Adopt a Trail
- Help set up, put on and tear down summer special events
- Become a Campground Rover, meeting and welcoming campers and promoting programs
- Create attractive bulletin board displays
- Be a nature center host
- Work in the heritage garden
- Take care of captive snakes and turtles
- Help with canoe and kayak events
- Be a campground host

Projects a group (like scouts) can do:

- Remove invasive plants
- Litter clean up on trails or in public areas, or
- Adopt a Trail
- Work in the heritage garden
- Help with canoe and kayak events

- Help clean up the wildlife observation area
- Help with our Halloween event
- Help with our Eagles in Flight event

Property: Upper Wabash Interpretive Services 260-468-2127

Interpretive volunteer projects at Mississinewa Lake, Salamonie Lake, Ouabache State Park and the Salamonie River State Forest

Projects individual volunteers can do:

- Interpretive Center Host
- Display/exhibit care in interpretive center
- Landscaping Maintenance
- Wildlife and Native Plant Surveys
- Maintain Bird Viewing Area (feeder repairs/cleaning, clean glass, pond care)
- Invasive Species removal/control
- Build/Maintain Birdhouses
- Special Events Assistance
- Clean bulletin boards/ Design bulletin board displays
- Organize/inventory interpretive handouts
- Presentations on Topics: Outdoor skills, History, Arts, Science, Hunter education

Projects a family can do:

- Clean all interpretive bulletin boards
- Invasive Species removal/control
- Trash pickup - parking lots, shelters, trails and playgrounds
- Pass out program schedules to campers
- Interpretive Animal Care
- Clean Interpretive Program Areas

Projects a group (like scouts) volunteers can do:

- Eagle Scout level candidates can organize work projects to build structures, remove invasives, etc.
- Adopt-A-Trail clean-up
- Trail vegetation-trimming
- Install new mulch in interpretive center bird area
- Preparation for special events